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B U L L - E T I N

S A N A N T O N I O R A D I O C L U B

President	Daniel Perciful	K5ILE
Secretary	Larry Scott	WB5GVD
Treasurer	Frank Fox	WA5VFM

Meets first and third Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Red Cross Building, 90 Brees St. All who have an INTEREST in amateur radio are cordially invited to attend.

Bull-etin Editor, Dean Davis W5BGE, Asst. Ed., Maybelle Davis, XYL
Circulation Mgr., Bob Via WB5FDT

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THE PREZ SEZ

By K5ILE PERCY

The San Antonio Radio Club is starting another year. It is always good to look at the past, but what about the future? This is your Club and we want to please everyone. We regret that Bill Ross K5LLK had to resign as president because his work changed and has moved to Harlingen. We will miss his leadership very much. Good Luck in your new endeavor, Bill!

January is an important month ham-wise for SARC. First, plans are in the making for Field Day and Frank Gerwitz W5QMH has accepted this responsibbility as chairman. Second, the annual Old Timers Night is planned for the Friday Jan. 18 meeting. Third, the Simulated Emergency Test exercise will be 26-27 Jan. For detailed information see Page 6 in this Bull-etin.

There are still committees to be formed. We need a vice-president and a sgt-at-arms. We hope all these will be filled quickly. With your cooperation, we are sure that the SARC will continue to be an active club in the year of 1974. We wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year! 73, Daniel Perciful K5ILE.

.... .- .--. .--. -.-- -. . .-- -.-- . .- -.--

O L D T I M E R S N I G H T

The Friday, Jan. 18, Club meeting of SARC has been reserved to honor the OLD TIMERS who have been licensed for more than 25 years. ALL OT's in the S.A. area are invited as the Clubs' honor guests on this evening. Spread the word and bring an OT with you! The OT's are asked to bring some early gear, old QSL's, magazines, pictures, etc., to put on display---- a n d, be prepared to give us a TALL tale! C U there 73, Percy K5ILE.

-...- -...- -...-

****
* SARC PRESIDENT HOSPITALIZED *
* On Tuesday, Jan.8, Daniel Per- *
* cival K5ILE, President of San *
* Antonio Radio Club, was taken *
* to Nix Hospital, Room 2128. He *
* is suffering with high blood *
* pressure and very thin blood. *
* On Wednesday it was reported *
* he was doing well but was yet *
* to hear from EKG. He has a *
* history of heart condition. *
****

TEXAS VHF-FM SOCIETY WINTER MEET

Winter Annual Meeting Texas VHF-FM Society will be held at the Ramada Inn College Station, Tex. Saturday & Sunday morning Feb. 23/24, 1974. Hosts for this meeting are the genial Aggies from A&M's Repeater Group. Registration for hotel can be handled thru your local Ramada Inn at no charge. Our local Aggie ham Corky WB5CIT says a swap fest will be held also.

de Larry W5QMU.

TECHNICAL TOPICS

By W5LFM Cal Graf

This past December, Sir Robert Watson-Watt, developer of the world's first practical radar system, died in Scotland at the age of 81. He forever placed in our history, the word Radar, which is so close to those of us in the radio-electronics field. I remember back in the summer of '42 when I was going to the San Antonio Radio Club meetings, that the issues of QST talked about men joining the Marines could get in the field of radar if they had amateur licenses. At that time, very few people could even spell radar correctly because of the security involved but because of being a ham I was able to get into a fascinating field of endeavor. And now, a child of 3 knows what radar is.

Sir Robert began working on radar-like systems in 1919 when he was at the Royal Aircraft Establishment which is still in being today. He worked first on locating thunderstorms with cathode-ray detection systems. The Air Ministry asked him in February 1935 whether he thought it was possible to develop a radio "death ray" for air defense. His first report stated that it would be necessary to locate an aircraft before a death ray could be aimed. His calculations showed that reflected radio waves could be used for detection. By mid-1935, planes were being detected 17 miles away, and by September '35, 70 miles away. With this development, Britain was well on its way toward development of the half-hour warning system that played a crucial role in repulsing enemy planes in the Battle of Britain.

After World War II, Watson-Watt was rewarded with approximately [illegible] $200,000 by the Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors for his work on radar. He was knighted in 1942 and received the U.S. Medal of Merit in 1946. Radar is novel because when you back-scatter the word it still spells radar. However, for a side-looking radar it is pronounced "dardar".

Hewlett-Packard is still attacking the pocket calculator with gusto and they have announced a pocket-sized programmable calculator that contains a magnetic card reader. The unit is expected to be on the market in about six months and it is to be called the HP-65. It will contain a random-access memory and is to be programmed by magnetic cards about the size of chewing gum sticks. The unit will be about the same size as the HP-35 and HP-45 which are scientific calculators. The cost is expected to be about $500. Not a bad price if you don't get the program stick mixed up with your chewing gum and gum up the works or eat up the program.

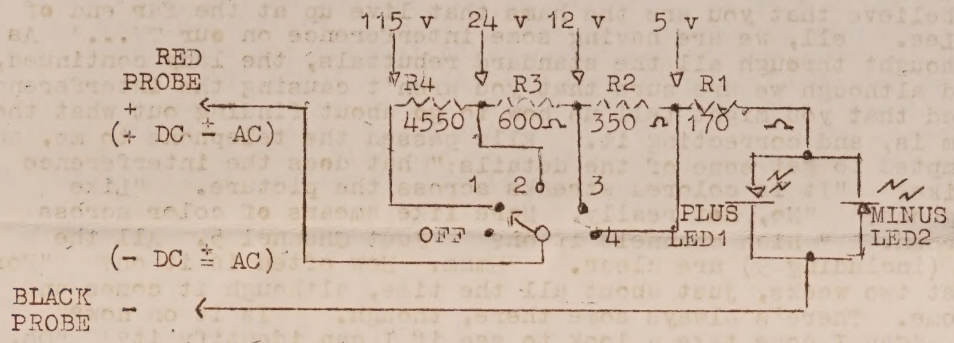
The light emitting diode (LED) is a fascinating device and new merits are found for it almost weekly. Monsanto now points out that reliability is a big factor with LEDs. The half life of an LED is something like 100 years, so Monsanto has a guarantee which is 10 years or the life of the equipment, whichever comes first. Imagine that--after 100 years the power output would drop only 3 db. And Dialight has the price down to 28 cents for quantities of one. Keep your eye on the LED--it's here to stay.

OSCAR VI is still operating and Pat Patterson, W5VY, continues to put San Antonio on the satellite map with his activities. Pat finished up 1973 by working all 50 states, 14 countries, 3 continents, and he had a total of 1800 contacts. He will receive WAS No. 5 via Oscar VI and a special trophy for his work. And Pat is starting his 52st year of hamming in 1974. From spark gaps to satellites.

Popular Electronics magazine will soon carry an article by yours truly about "A Compact, Polarity-Sensing Voltage Level Indicator Using LEDs". The article describes a circuit which makes use of two light emitting diodes to indicate voltage polarity. The LED light intensity is used to indicate voltage level in conjunction with a rotary switch which places resistors in the circuit in the correct voltage operating range. Two LEDs are used so that on AC voltages the LEDs will both conduct and glow with the same brightness. The LEDs, which are connected in reverse polarity parallel, each draw current through the series dropping resistor when the AC sine wave voltage is of the correct polarity. Thus, the forward conduction of one LED protests the reverse-voltage breakdown of the other parallel-connected LED.

Direct current voltages will cause one or the other LEDs to light,

depending on the voltage polarity at the input probes. Because of this feature, polarity of the voltage being tested can easily be determined without having to change test probe positions to the circuit being tested. One LED and probe are marked Plus and the other LED and probe are marked Minus. For information on availability of a kit for this test device, contact Technigraf Company at 207 Zornia, San Antonio, TX 78213. Good luck to all in 1974. Cal Graf, W5LFM.



All resistors are ½ watt except R4 which is 2 watt.
Note: Resistor values are chosen for 20 ma. LED current.

LED VOLTER --Circuit diagram for the LED Volter which can determine polarity and voltage level for a number of applications. The unit can test voltage levels from 1.5 volt AC/DC to 115 volt AC/DC.

-..- -..- -..- -..- -..- de Cal W5LFM.

WORDS FROM CHUCK'S WAGON

By Chuck WB5 FWI

A friend of mine and I were talking the other day about the possibility of my writing an article for the BULL-ETIN. He mentioned that I am on the ham bands much more than most people and do hear a lot of the goings-on of amateur radio (working everything from 3.5 to 450 MHZ.) Most of my operating is done on the VHF-UHF frequencies. That's where I got started almost 4 years ago. My first experience on the air wasn't what you would ca call a normal QSO. Most everybody thought 2 meters was being invaded by little men in green suits. All'n all, my short career as a ham has brought me hours of fun and many friends throughout the world. I don't claim to be an expert in this field, but do have my own views on our hobby. Many are good, some not so good, but certainly the good outweighs the bad.

Some people have sai 1 '73 is the last year for amateur radio. If this is true, somebody better tell the hams about it. Ever since the turn of the century, when that first "dit" was sent over the air, ham radio has grown and progressed further than anyone had dreamed, and is still growing. Just because the FCC gave us some new rules to go by (which they are now reading themselves), doesn't mean that the world is going to end. We're not going to see that any time soon. Maybe a few growing pains, but nothing deadly. And by writing the FCC your opinions, we will retain our hobby.

We all would like to wish Daniel perciful K5ILE good luck in the com ing year as the new President of SARC. It was unfortunate that Bill Ross K5LLK had to leave town because of his new job. Bill will be missed by everyone.

1973 has not been too good a year for us hams. We've had a number of blockades from the FCC that if not dealt with properly, might alte the future of amateur radio drastically. What will happen to 220? Will all repeaters have their new licenses before 1984? These questions and others have to be answered before we forge ahead.

Conserve energy, turn off lights, turn down heaters, but leave that radio on! We have enough lack of communication.

73, Chuck WB5FWI.

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SARO ELECTS OFFICERS

At the Sat., Jan. 4, meeting of San Antonio Repeater Organization new officers were elected. They were: Harvey Dapeer K5DDJ, president; Dave Hunter W5DUU, vice-president; Neil Martin WA5FSR, secretary and Bob Wheaton W5PKK, treasur. The club voted to sponsor the summer Tex VHF-FM Society meeting in SA.

-..- -..- -...- -...- 344 6136

FOR SALE: 4 elment 15M beam, 3" osciliscope, conduit. Adam WB5GFE

TVI

By
W5VPQ
GEORGE
MUNSCH

A MOST UNUSUAL CASE

Ella received a phone call one evening between the "I Love Lucy" re-run and the News. The caller identified herself, and then went on, "...I believe that you are the hams that live up at the far end of Janet Lee. Well, we are having some interference on our TV..." As Ella thought through all the standard rebuttals, the lady continued, "...And although we are sure that you aren't causing the interference we hoped that you might tell us how to go about finding out what the problem is, and correcting it." Ella passed the telephone to me, and I attempted to get some of the details:"What does the interference look like?" "It is colored streaks across the picture." "Like Herringbone?" "No, not really. More like smears of color across the screen." "Which channels it on?" "Just Channel 5. All the others (including 9) are clear." "Hmmm. How often is it on?" "For the last two weeks, just about all the time, although it comes and goes some. There's always some there, though." "Is it on now?" "Yes." "Can I come take a look to see if I can identify it?" "Oh, yes, certainly; we'd be happy to do anything that will help get rid of it."

I have left out a good deal of the conversation relating to guesses by TV service men, the Chief Engineer at Channel 5, and other assorted and sundry sources which were described to me during the course of the conversation.

I went down and took a look at the set with the problem, and as best as I can describe it, it looked like this: the channels other than 5 were clear, including 9, which was noisy because of antenna deficiency. There was no interference, however. On Channel 5 the picture was strong, and in black and white, showed only traces of horizontal streaks across the picture. However, when the color control was advanced, the transmitted color was supplemented with multicolored horizontal streaks, or narrow bars. These bars had a fixed pattern which appeared to move slowly with respect to the picture.

"Ah ha! It's related to 60 Hz", I thought. Probably some transmitter with no audio and some hum on the carrier. Maybe it's on 80 Meter CW, down where the color burst frequency is. It took me two days to discard that idea, since that would affect all channels. I had taken my 5" black and white portable with me to the area, but, since, the interference predominately affected the color in the picture, I couldn't see any clues with this set. So, back to the house to pick up the color portable, and the wife to drive. By the time we got back to the area, lo and behold, Channel 5 was running an ancient black and white movie. (Probably the network movie was too rich for our poor tender San Antonio audience.)

Well, let's make a pass through the area anyway. Sure enough, something unlocked the color killer enough for some color flashes to be seen over the B & W picture in a very restricted area near the house where the complaint originated. By this time, of course, it was pitch dark, and I wasn't about to go stomping around through people's yards and ringing doorbells asking if they had a clandestine transmitter of some nature operating. This was a Tuesday evening, and the better part of valor seemed to dictate waiting until the weekend before any more serious effort was expended. Early the next afternoon, however, a quick pass was made through the neighborhood looking for antennas which might be associated with a radiating source. None was seen. Numerous telephone calls were made trying to find someone who had any suggestions as to what the source might be, and also attempting to locate a communications receiver which tuned 76-82 MHz. Several suggestions from W5ZPV and W5LFM helped eliminate some of my more irrational solutions, and W5ZPV offered the use of a receiver covering this frequency range. However, it was a 110 Volt unit, meaning that I was going to have to provide a power source if I was going to use it for a search receiver.

Therefore, plans were made for a Sunday outing to trace the problem. A 150 MHz oscilloscope and high impedance probe were obtained from one of the labs at work, W5ZPV's receiver was picked up, and the portable color set were all loaded in the Winnebago, and the 110 power plant fired up for power. Several dipole and loop antennas were provided in addition to the TV antenna permanently installed on the vehicle. Bob Armor, a non-ham friend who lives nearby was en-

listed as a driver, while David, my younger harmonic came along as antenna rotator and messenger. Several slow passes were made through the affected area with this assemblage of vehicle and equipment, not without notice by the residents. It did not take long to determine that the problem was, indeed, confined to a rather limited area; in fact it seemed to originate from one of two houses. This is where the door-to-door campaign began, asking such questions as, "Have you got any new electronic equipment lately, such as a video tape recorder, shortwave, police monitor, or FM receiver, or even a new TV set, or C.B. walkie-talkie?" The alley was also carefully scrutinized to see if there were any unusual boxes connected to the power or telephone cables which might be radiating some strange telemetry or communications signal. The result of all this effort was essentially negative, except that everyone contacted complained about interference on Channel 5. By this time, we were totally baffled, and retired to the Winnebago for further meditation.

After dispersing the crowd of curious sightseers which had gathered (all of whom expressed gratitude for the effort, and great hope that the problem would be found and cured), a very slow pass was made down the middle of the street, while moving the antennas to see if the interference could be picked up stronger than the Channel 5 signal, so that its true character could be observed and analyzed. At two very well defined spots on the street, the interfering signal seemed strongest, and was finally brought in by careful antenna positioning and receiver tuning. For a minute it didn't make sense; it was a perfect Channel 4 picture on Channel 5, slightly off frequency. The video and audio subcarriers could be found with the search receiver, slightly displaced from the legitimate Channel 5 signals. Careful checks were made to determine if the signal was delayed any (as in a recorder), but it was appearing in step with the real signal on Channel 4. This meant that something had to be picking up Channel 4 and retransmitting it on Channel 5. But what? Well, it was back to ringing doorbells, but by now it was narrowed down to one of two houses; both had been visited before. I explained that I thought some mal-performance in a TV set was causing the problem; would they mind unplugging their TV for 30 seconds or a minute to determine if the problem would disappear. The 23" color set in the den was unplugged, and almost immediately, I heard Bob yell from the Winnie parked in the middle of the street--"HEY, IT WENT AWAY!!!"

We checked all the other sets in the neighborhood that had been affected, and sure enough, the problem was gone. Further investigation indicated that the offending set had been to the shop and returned about the time all the trouble started; apparently some problem was introduced by the service technician to cause the re-radiation. The two hot spots in the street apparently were caused by direct radiation from the set in one place, as it was directly in front of the house, and the other was directly in front of the external TV antenna, which was being fed through the twinlead from the set inside. The frequencies involved at first indicated perhaps the second harmonic of a 40 MHz I.F. strip were involved, but since the signal was clean, and the intercarrier frequencies were correct (color and sound subcarriers) to produce a color picture with sound, apparently there was a very stable parasitic oscillation in the video circuitry which was modulated by all the appropriate signals. Also, the set was an instant-on tube type, and enough of the circuits stayed hot to keep the signal on even when the set was turned off. The set owners were very receptive to the news that their TV was the source of the trouble, and said they would get the service shop back to fix it right this time.

We left and have heard no further complaints, so apparently the problem was repaired by the shop who caused it in the first place. As a result of this episode, I would like to find a receiver which covers up through at least 108 MHz, such as the Hallidrafters SX43, or the Sprague Interference Analyzer, to be used in future investigations. If anyone has one of these wide coverage receivers available, or knows where one is, please give me a call at 344-4191.

de George Munson W5VPQ.

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FOR SALE-FM Stereo, Equipment. No cabinets, just units. Mint condition.....FM SCOTT Lt-10, SCOTT Multiplex unit, FM Stereo. Dynakit Stereo, Pre Amp PAS-2. Dynakit Stereo Amp 70. With manuals. Two University TriAxials model 312 (12 inch) speakers, with cross over net works. 8 to 16 ohms input. George H. Henderson W5OI, 2641 Nacogdoches Rd. Phone 824 5612.

SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

By Bill Rich WA5YXS, South Texas ARRL Section Communications Manager and Frank Gerwitz W5QMH, Bexar County Emergency Coordinator.

South Texas will again participate in the National Simulated Emergency Test to be held 26-27 January. SET should not be treated as a contest. It is intended to be a test of the Amateur Radio Traffic System, to indicate how well it would perform under emergency conditions To achieve a successful SET participation is needed by all emergency conscious amateurs.

In addition to any locally planned activity, each participating station is asked to originate at least two messages. One should go to the SEC of S. Texas, the other to any one of your choosing, preferably to one out of state.

SAMPLE MESSAGE: Message number ___ test routine--HXB--Check 6--San Antonio, Tex.--time filed--26 Jan. 74.
TO: Bill Rich WA5YXS SEC S-Tex. 107 5th St., Los Fresnos, Tex.78566.
Test Message am participating in SET
Signed (your name and call letters).

South Texas got off easy last year weatherwise. We didn't have any big emergencies. We therefore need the SET all the more. This year, in addition to the use of W5SC at Red Cross, stations in each section ot the city will be designated as control point. Frequencies of 7290, 3961 and 146.34/94 will be used.

All amateurs in the SA area are invited to participate. Please let me know your intentions. Would like to see you at Red Cross Headquarters by 1 p.m. Sat. 26 Jan. and give W5SC help at one of its areas.

Additional information can be found on Page 57 of the Dec. QST.
73, Frank W5QMH.

SET PARTICIPATING NETS-

Sat-Jan 26th.	DNTS(CTN)	14,315 kHz	10:30 am -12:30 pm (both days)
	D-RN5	7290	3:00 pm
	7290	7290	1:00 - 2:00 pm
	TTN	3961	2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
	TEX	7075	2:00 pm
	TEX	3770	6:30 pm &10:00 pm
	RN-5	7095	2:30 pm
	RN-5	3645	7:30 pm & 9:30 pm
	CAN	7090	3:30 pm & 3670 Khz 8:30 pm.
Sun-Jan 27th	7290	7290 kHz	10:00 am - noon & 1:00 pm -2:00 pm
	D-RN5	7280	11:00 am & 3:00 pm on 7290 kHz
	TTN	3691	2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
	TEX	7075	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
	RN-5	7095	2:30 pm, 4:30 pm -3645 -7:30&9:30
	TEX	3770	6:30 pm & 10:00 pm
	TEX-SS	3748	Sat. & Sun. 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
	CAN		Same schedule both days

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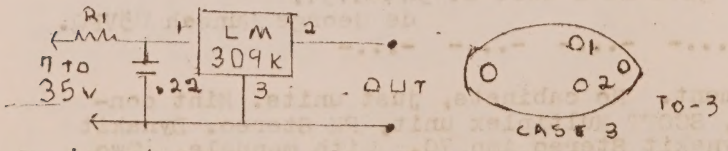
VOLTAGE REGULATOR

By W5JKU FLOYD

We seem to be coming to a world of instant circuits. This is proven by the many intigrated circuits available. One of these is the voltage regulator of which the LM309 is of interest as it costs $2.49 at the local Radio Shack. This is a 5 volt regulator rated 10 watts with heat sink and 3 watts without. Max. average current is 1 amp. minimum, input voltage term 1 to 37 volts, maximum voltage 35v.



$R_1 = \frac{V_{IN} - 7v}{1\ AMP}$

R_1 is not necessary but limits the power dissapated in the regulator. The regulator will shut down if too hot but should not be operated in this condition too long. If output drops after a while it is too hot and more cooling is needed.

(Continued on Page 7.)

PARTY REPORT

The annual Christmas Dinner-Dance of the SARC was held Sat., Dec. 8, at Strange's Party Home with nearly 120 in attendance, which included some from Houston, Austin, San Marcos, New Braunfels, Marion, Seguin, Brownsville, Los Fresnos and McAllen.

Following the dinner an informal meeting was held, The West Gulf Director, Roy Albright W5EYB, addressed the Club, giving latest ARRL information. Roy also presented a Certificate of Merit to Sue Rich WB5CUR, commending her dedicated work as an amateur, especially in the area of traffic. Sue has made BPL twice this year, handling some 2461 messages. Roy also introduced Art Ross W5KR, the S-Tex. SCM. Art talked on his duties as SCM and asked the help of all S.Tex. amateurs. Art introduced his SEC, Bill Rich WA5YXS, who explained the Simulated Emergency Test program which be exercised Jan. 26-27.

The local chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association was well represented at the party. Some 28 members and their XYLs attended. Claude Phillips W5KJ, president, presented a 50 year award to J. V. Fitzhugh W5VL.

Out-of-towners included: Art Ross W5KR Brownsville; Bill WA5YXS and Sue WB5CUR Rich, Los Fresnos; Bill K5LLK and Kyoko Ross, Harlingen; Dick WA5JFX and Jane WA5JFZ Eastman, New Braunfels; Alfred WN5GYG Bruckner and XYL, New Braunfels; John WB5BGV and Susan Thompson, Austin; Ed WB5AMN and Cathy Stoessel, Houston; Carlos W5YZ and Rose Montemayor, Houston; Marvin W5FFG and Susie WA5UFL Soefje, Seguin; Earl K5YNS Williams, San Marcos, and last but not least Lee K5HZR and Emma Ulrey from Marion.

The Grand Prize, a Genave 2M FM xceiver was won by Ivan WA5RNV. Communication Radio Co. donated a communication mike which was won by Dick WA5JFX. HyGain $\frac{1}{4}$ wave magnetic mount 2m antennae were drawn by Rose Montemayor and Mike Ritterman WN5GAI. A 5/8 Avante Mobile 2m antenna was won by Floyd Roland W5JKU. A GPG-2 HyGain antenna was drawn by Harry Crouse W5KCR. The ladies prize, a decorative candle and holder was won by Virginia Essington. The retail value of the prizes was $374.10.

The cost of the party which includes: Strange's Party House, orchestra p4izes, printing and postage, beer, decorations was $1,186.89. Receipts from dinner-dance ticket sales and donations were $1,050. Cost to SARC was $136.89.

Our thanks to those who worked on ticket sales: W5KQG, W5LVE, W5EYB, W5PKK, WA5VFM, K5MEN, K5LLK and W5EJT.

The decorations were ably handled by Hazel Albright, Virginia Essington, Peggy DeLay, Lucille Shean and Maybelle Davis. Our thanks to this committee for a job well done.

73, Dean W5BGE, Chairman of Arrangements.

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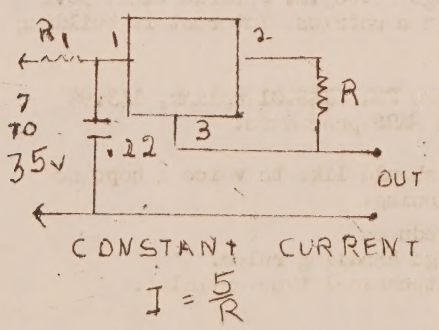
VOLTAGE REGULATOR (Continued from Page 6)

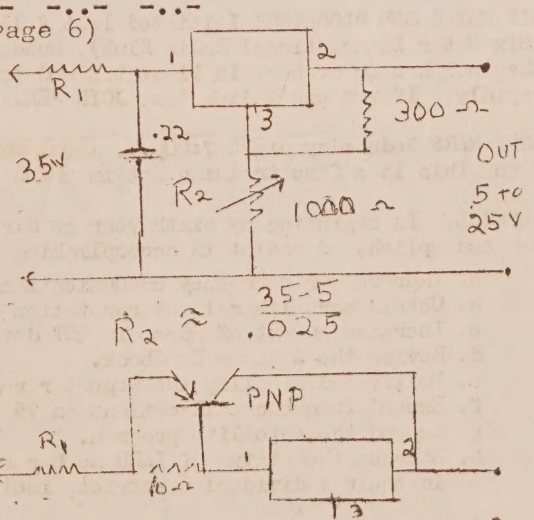


CONSTANT CURRENT

$I = \frac{5}{R}$

There are a number of regulators available (not locally) in other voltage and current ratings, but with these few tricks only one type can be made to do many jobs.

73, Floyd Roland W5JKU.



$R_2 \approx \frac{35-5}{.025}$

High Current Supply--The PNP transistor is a high current device and must be well heat sinked.

ARRL - NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE WEST GULF DIRECTOR

As 1973 came to an end, the proposal to give a portion of the amateur 220 Mhz band to CB remained unsettled. It is absolutely ridiculous to suppose FCC would grant this request when the only logical argument in its favor is purely a presumed financial advantage for equipment manufacturers. We remain convinced it would be better to leave CB'ers in their present location - and clean up the lawlessness. We also hold the opinion the great majority of CB'ers feel the same way.

WALKER SPEAKS AT SAROC - In his talk at SAROC on 4 January Mr. A. Prose Walker, Chief of the Amateur and Citizens Division of FCC, intimated it is conceivable we amateurs can develop a system of coded access for repeaters which would eliminate the necessity for monitoring and control by other than the repeater user. We are pleased to see this attitude on the part of Mr. Walker. From this it would appear the Commission might authorize both monitored open repeaters and unmonitored coded access types UPON A SHOWING ON OUR PART THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED A BLACK BOX WHICH WILL ADEQUATELY PERFORM THE NECESSARY FUNCTIONS. You may recall both the Tex VHF-FM Society and this Director recommended this in our petitions for reconsideration of Docket 18803 in 1972.

Also, in his talk, Mr. Walker made mention of repeater linking, with particular reference to the Texas Intercity Repeater System (TIRS). In my proposal to the Society at Pasadena a few years ago (which resulted in the birth of TIRS), I recognized the complexity of such a system and problems associated with its development and use. Due to the engineering genius of Bob Pace, WA5CJG, and others in the Society, most technical aspects have been resolved. We are aware there are other problems. One has been the opinion that FCC would not authorize linking more than two repeaters. I have consistently stated that if we develop a controllable system we can overcome that objection.

It appears Mr. Walker now holds the opinion that construction of more TIRS units has been inhibited because those who finance and build these units are unwilling to expend the necessary time and money because the system as a whole cannot be used except for emergencies. If this indeed is one reason we do not have more links under construction it should be emphasized the engineering plans for links are, or can be modified to allow use of the repeater in a normal manner for local use during non-TIRS operation periods. Most certainly we must have a system which will be (1) rigidly controllable, (2) provide for testing 2 or more units, (3) be useable for scheduled training, and (4) allow useage of the entire system under controlled conditions, for special situations which would enhance our emergency capability. IN VIEW OF OUR PUBLIC SERVICE RESPONSIBILITY I STRONGLY RECOMMEND CONTINUED EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM WITH ALL DELIBERATE SPEED.

EMERGENCY FREQUENCY PROPOSED FOR ALASKA - Last week FCC published a most interesting notice relating to a request to establish 4383.8 Khz as a common emergency frequency for Alaska - an area where they have rather unique emergency communication requirements. Although requested to do so by Alaska, FCC does not favor inclusion of CB'ers on the frequency. We quote: "---- because of past history of operating rule violations in the Citizens Radio Service their inclusion could jeopardize the success of the emergency network." Think that one over for a moment in relation to the 220 hassle! It was heartening to see in this notice that the Commission favors permitting radio amateurs to operate along with other services on the proposed emergency frequency.

SIX METER SSB BLOOMING! Initiated last fall by a San Antonio group, SMIRK 6-6 net (Six Meter International Radio Klub), Sunday evenings, 6:00p.m. Pacific time, 50.2 Mhz, now has 40 members in 11 states and two foreign countries. Interest is building rapidly. If you can't lick 'em, JOIN 'EM.

ARMY MARS Wednesday night 7:00p.m. local time, is now FM. 148.01 uplink, 143.99 down. This is a fine training net in which to learn MARS procedure.

GENERAL: In beginning my sixth year as director I should like to voice a hope we can accomplish, or assist in accomplishing the following:

a. Improve our emergency communications preparedness.
b. Obtain more liberal interpretation of message handling rules.
c. Increase amount of space in QST devoted to technical type articles.
d. Revise the Antenna Handbook.
e. Modify and simplify the Repeater regulations.
f. Expand frequency allocations on 75 and 20 meter bands.
g. Expand the satellite program.
h. Enhance the status of IARU member societies for greater effectiveness in their individual countries, including our own.

73, ROY L. AIRRIGHT, W5EYB, DIRECTOR, WEST GULF DIVISION
AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE